



## Immunizations

Back Issues of this publication are available on our website: [cdhd.idaho.gov](http://cdhd.idaho.gov)

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# Central District Health Department

## THE SHOT LINE

### It's Flu Season - Are You Ready?

We recognize the beginning of fall by the beautiful leaves and the crisp morning air, talking about the upcoming holidays and time spent with neighbors, friends and family. But have you thought about flu? Flu season can begin as early as October and last as late as May. October or November is the best time to get vaccinated, but you can still get vaccinated in December and later. Everyone should consider getting a flu shot; however, it is recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) that certain people should get vaccinated each year. They are either people who are at high risk of having serious flu complications or people who live with or care for those at high risk for serious complications. By protecting yourself, you also protect your family, friends and co-



workers, and those who are elderly or have underlying health conditions that make the flu dangerous to them.



Central District Health Department began flu clinics on October 3, 2007 for high-risk groups as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations.

These groups include:

#### People at high risk for complications from the flu, including:

- Children aged 6 months until their 5th birthday,
- Pregnant women,
- People 50 years of age and older, and
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions;
- People who live in nursing homes and other long term care facilities.

#### People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including:

- Household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu (see above)
- Household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than 6 months of age (these children are too young to be vaccinated)
- Healthcare workers.



## Whom To Contact:

For medical questions about vaccines for children (VFC) (schedules, updates, vaccine storage and handling, etc. please contact:

**Cathy Deckys, RN**  
Medical Provider Liaison  
327-8512  
cdeckys@cdhd.idaho.gov

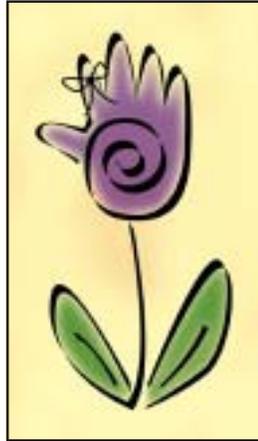
For user support & training of IRIS; how IRIS can benefit your clinic practice or daycare; or to schedule a demonstration of IRIS, please contact:

**Leanna Davis**  
IRIS Provider Liaison  
869-9118  
ldavis@cdhd.idaho.gov

For general immunization / registry questions or concerns, please contact:

**Teresa Phillips, RN**  
Program Manager,  
Immunizations, Children's Services  
& International Health  
327-8518  
tphillip@cdhd.idaho.gov

## IRIS News



IRIS users or those contemplating the benefits of IRIS, come join Central District Health Department for an evening of specialized training on "Accountability", Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the CDHD computer training lab. For additional information or to register for the class please call Leanna Davis, IRIS Provider Liaison at 208-327-8548. Beginning in 2008 CDHD will be offering quarterly trainings on the various tools of IRIS; more information to come. In the meantime if you have technical questions, problems or want to schedule individual or specific trainings; please call Leanna Davis, IRIS Provider Liaison at 208-327-8548.

## Shots & Meals

On October 24<sup>th</sup> the Central District Health Department tested its Emergency Response Plans by providing a select group of seniors on the Meals On Wheels routes with free flu shots. In the event of a real public health emergency, like an influenza pandemic, the health district would be required to provide vaccine to special populations like the homebound elderly served by the Meals On Wheels program. In this first-time exercise some 80 seniors were vaccinated against the seasonal flu. Response was so positive the health district may try to vaccinate all 600 Meals On Wheels clients next year.



*The flu exercise attracted considerable media attention.*

## Got Immunization Questions?

### Call the Shot Line

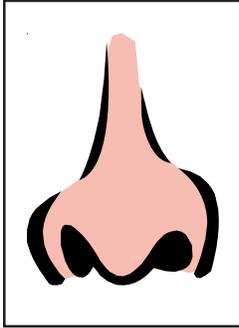
**Call 321-BABY** to get answers!!! This service provides physicians, nursing personnel, childcare providers, and school nurses a direct line to an immunization nurse who will provide immediate answers to your immunization questions (i.e. scheduling, timing, storage and handling, vaccine errors, etc.)



You can access this line by dialing **321-BABY (321-2229)**. This line will be answered during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please note that the Shot Line will not be answered on state holidays.

## Focus On Immunizations

### Flu Mist Update:



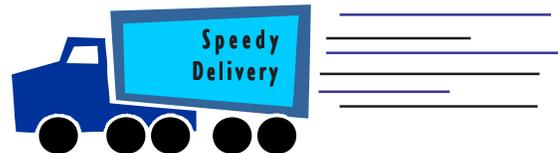
On September 19, 2007 the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved use of the nasal influenza vaccine LAIV (FluMist®) for healthy children ages 2-4 years old (24-59 months old), as well as for healthy persons ages 5-49 years who are not pregnant. Previously, approval was for healthy persons ages 5-49 years who are not pregnant. Remember to update your 2007 – 2008 Live Attenuated Influenza (nasal spray) Vaccine Information Statement (VIS), published on 10-4-07, that reflects the new recommendation for use in children 2 through 49 years. VFC providers who ordered Flu Mist should start receiving the vaccine sometime after November 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Flu Vaccine Update:

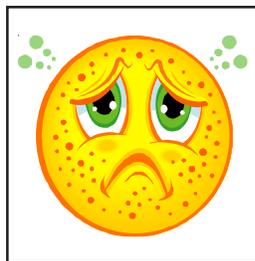
The Idaho Immunization Program (IIP) has an abundant supply of infant (6 mo -35 mo) flu vaccine for VFC providers; however, Fluzone by Sanofi (3 years of age and older) is only available in very limited amounts. IIP is making every effort to get flu vaccine to providers as quickly as possible.

### Vaccine Shipping Update:

The IIP wants to remind everyone there is still a 2-3 week shipping delay for all childhood vaccines coming from McKesson. It is very important that offices pay special attention to their vaccine inventory and keep in mind the 2-3 week shipping delay when managing inventory.



### Varicella Update:



In August 2007 the IIP notified providers of the supply/shipping disruption of Varivax (Varicella). At that time Merck anticipated the issue would be resolved by late September or early October; unfortunately, that has not been the case. Most providers are experiencing a shipping delay of about a month. So it's important for offices to monitor their vaccine inventory carefully and place orders well in advance to reduce the risk of running out of vaccine.

# Workshops & Trainings for District 4 Childcare Providers

Childcare providers in Health District 4 (Ada, Elmore, Boise & Valley counties) can take advantage of the following workshops:

## **Let's Talk About Health and Asthma**

Thursday, November 29, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Illness concerns, exclusions/inclusions, policies, medications and understanding asthma will be discussed.

To register: call Lucille Hernandez @ 327-8586. Cost: Free

## **Sniffles and Sneezes, Communicable Diseases**

Thursday, December 6, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Transmission, prevention, environment and specific diseases - Fifth's, Hand, Foot, and Mouth, Head Lice, Hepatitis A and B. and AIDS will be discussed.

To register: call Lucille Hernandez @ 327-8586. Cost: Free

## **Ways to Enhance Children's Physical Activity and Nutrition – Part One**

Tuesday, January 15, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Parents and caregivers have a big impact on shaping the behavior of children. This two hour class focuses on a discussion of healthy weight, energy balance, food choices, and portion control. Participants are encouraged to also complete Part Two.

To register: call Barb Gilbert @ 327-8547. Cost: Free

## **Ways to Enhance Children's Physical Activity and Nutrition – Part Two**

Tuesday, January 22, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Parents and caregivers have a big impact on shaping the behavior of children. Participation in Part One is encouraged, but not required. This two hour class focuses on Energy Out: increasing physical activity and reducing screen time.

To register: Call Barb Gilbert @ 327-8547. Cost: Free

## **Food Safety in the Child Care Setting**

Wednesday, February 13, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

The most effective way to prevent foodborne illness is handwashing. The class will provide insight into other methods of reducing foodborne illness in a child care setting.

To register: call 327-7499. Cost: Free

## **Asthma and Allergy Essentials for Child Care Providers**

Thursday, March 13, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

The class will provide up to date information on asthma and allergy symptoms, triggers and statistics. We will discuss deciphering activity levels in poor air quality and high pollen months and introduce the new *Slide Rule* from the DEQ and tell you how to get automatic reminders on what levels of activity are permitted during peak asthma attack months.

To register: Call Barb Gilbert @ 327-8547. Cost: Free

All workshops and training are held at the Boise office of Central District Health Department, 707 N Armstrong Place, Boise.

## Farewell Anna Duarte

THANKS



ANNA

Anna Duarte reads a book to children at an area day care center during 'Mock Pox' days.

It is with much regret that we announce Anna Duarte's retirement from the Central District Health Department effective December 31, 2007. Anna has worked at CDHD for 15 years wearing many different hats. Anna began her long career at CDHD in the Immunization department in 1992 where she administered childhood, adult and overseas immunizations. But Anna didn't just administer vaccines during this time she also began her long and fruitful career in education. From 1992 – 1993 Anna taught smoking cessation classes to Women, Infant and Children (WIC) mothers. Also included in her repertoire is approximately 12 years working on and off with the Child Find program. The goal of the program was to screen children from birth - 3 years of age for developmental delays and to provide ongoing monitoring through parent questionnaires.

If you were to ask Anna about her greatest accomplishment at CDHD, she would probably say it's the Child Care Program. Anna began developing the program in 1993 as the nurse health consultant for CDHD and child care providers throughout the district. Anna provided consultation on Health and Safety issues, and provided immunizations at child care centers for about a year.

Training/education has always been important to Anna. Over the years she has developed over 20 different training presentations that she offers at childcare centers, CDHD, Boise State and regional conferences. She has also played a major role in developing policies and procedures for child care providers. Anna has conducted thousands of child care site visits during which she provided education, training, and immunization inspections. Anna has lent her expertise to a variety of organizations and groups, building partnerships far and wide. Here are just a few of the organizations she's worked with: Head Start, Early Childhood Collaboration, Governor's Roundtable, Resource & Referral businesses, and Infant Toddler Council.

Anna, we thank you for your many years of hard work and dedication to our children and the community as a whole. We wish you well in your retirement and look forward to seeing you running up and down the road in your travel trailer.

**Happy trails! We will miss you.**



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Immunizations  
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## Check Out Our New Website

The Central District Health Department launched a new version of its website on September 4<sup>th</sup> and we think you'll find it a lot easier to get information on the programs and services of the health department. The address remains the same; **www.cdhd.idaho.gov**, but the navigation is a whole lot easier.

You'll find an entire section devoted to Immunizations with easy to use tabs that quickly take you to the information you want.

Let us know what you think about the new website. Providing feedback is just a click away on the Immunizations contact page.

